United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/255

Meeting of States Parties

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Report of the Meeting of States Parties to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

I. Introduction

1. A Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea was held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 December 2012, in accordance with article 2 of annex II to the Convention. Pursuant to the decision of the twenty-second Meeting of States Parties (see SPLOS/251, para. 85) and paragraph 39 of General Assembly resolution 67/78, the Meeting was convened to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf nominated from the Eastern European States.

2. The Meeting had before it a note by the Secretary-General on the election, which included the curriculum vitae of the candidate nominated by the Government of Poland, Szymon Uścinowicz (SPLOS/252).

II. Opening of the Meeting

3. Isabelle Picco (Monaco), President of the twenty-second Meeting of States Parties, opened the Meeting.

4. The Meeting observed a minute of silence.

5. For the purposes of conducting its business, the Meeting decided to retain the composition of the Bureau, including the Presidency, as elected by the twenty-second Meeting, and the composition of the Credentials Committee as appointed by the twenty-second Meeting (see SPLOS/251, paras. 5, 6 and 12).

III. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

6. The Meeting adopted the agenda (SPLOS/253) and approved the organization of work, as outlined by the President.

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IV. Report of the Credentials Committee

7. The Credentials Committee, chaired by Éva Henriett Schäfer (Hungary), met following the adoption of the agenda. The Chair of the Credentials Committee introduced the report of the Credentials Committee to the Meeting (SPLOS/254). In particular, she stated that the Committee had examined and accepted the credentials of the representatives of 139 States parties to the Convention. She also informed delegations that, after the meeting of the Committee, information concerning the representatives of Jordan and Senegal had also been received. Consequently, the total number of credentials received was 141, of which 82 had been received in due form and 59 received on the understanding that formal credentials would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as practicable.

8. The Meeting approved the report of the Committee without a vote.

V. Election of one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

9. The President informed the Meeting of the election procedures, recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention and the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of States Parties (SPLOS/2/Rev.4).

10. The representatives of Chile, Greece, Mali and Singapore acted as tellers.

11. In the one round of balloting, Szymon Uścinowicz was elected as a member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, with 119 votes in favour and 2 abstentions. He will serve from the date of election until 15 June 2017.

12. On behalf of States parties, the President congratulated Mr. Uścinowicz on his election.